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REMARKS

This response is to the Office Letter mailed in the above-referenced case on March 18, 2005. Claims 19- 28 are presented for examination. Claims 19-20 and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Johnson et al. (U.S. 6,580,950) hereinafter Johnson. Applicant is unable to find another rejection submitted by the Examiner for claims 21-23 and 26-28. The Examiner did include these claims in the 102 rejection explanation for individual claims. Applicant will assume, for the benefit of this response, that the Examiner's intention was to include claims 21-23 and 26-28 in the 102(e) rejection.

Applicant has examined the Examiner's rejections and comments in the present application. In response, applicant provides arguments which show that all of the limitations of applicant's invention are not taught in the art of Johnson. Claim 19 is reproduced below for reference:

19. (Previously presented) *An Internet-enabled control system for monitoring and controlling home-automated-systems and appliances at a user's premise, comprising:*
a base station with Internet connection at the user's premise, the base station in communication with sensing and actuating subsystems at individual ones of the home-automated systems and appliances;
a first Internet-connected server communicating over the Internet with the base station, the first server monitoring the sensing subsystems and providing actuating commands to the actuating subsystems through the base station;
a second Internet-connected server providing a set of services to the user not related to control of the home-automated systems and appliances; and
an interactive control interface presentable by the second server, providing a control interface to the user at any Internet-connected appliance, enabling the user to access settings, view conditions, and issue commands to the home automated systems and

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appliances over the Internet to the first server and hence to the base station and the systems and appliances themselves, while connected from the Internet appliance to the second server;

wherein the interactive control interface is personalized to the particular user, provided by prior agreement with the user, and activated by an authentication technique.

Applicant argues that Johnson fails to teach sensing and actuating subsystems at individual ones of the home-automated systems and appliances. Column 4 of Johnson merely teaches a plurality of control devices 40 positioned in the home. Applicant also points out that the art of Johnson fails to specifically teach two separate servers, one for providing the customized user interface and another for receiving communication from the first server and for connecting to the base station.

Applicant argues that the two server structure is an intricate part of applicant's invention, a critical purpose of which is to provide access to a user of a control interface from Internet sites that the user may frequent regularly, so the user is not constrained to have to return to the main site that monitors the home equipment and provides commands to alter characteristics on the home equipment. The user can access a control panel from any one of enabled sites frequented, and commands made at the second server are communicated to the first server, which in turn controls the base station at the home. Applicant believes claim 19 is patentable over the art of Johnson as argued. Johnson clearly fails to provide all of the limitations in applicant's independent claims, therefore the prima facie case of rejection has not been met. Claim 24 hold similar limitations and is patentable as argued on behalf of claim 19.

Further, claims 23 and 28 state that the unrelated services offered on the same interface provided by the second server comprise one of banking services, search services, security exchange services, or personal data aggregation services. The Examiner states that Johnson teaches this limitation in col. 4, lines 41-44. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner. The Examiner seems to be assuming that it is possible for Johnson to perform this function because there are a plurality of servers at the

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data center. Applicant argues that the referenced portion of Johnson specifically teaches that all of the services provided by the data center specifically relate to the user's home services as evidenced below, where applicant has reproduced the paragraph in question:

"As shown in FIG. 1 of the drawings, a data center 20 comprised of one or more server computers is in communication with a global computer network 12 such as the Internet utilizing a conventional communications system such as a telephone modem, cable modem, digital subscriber line (DSL) integrated services digital network (ISDN), T1, T3, U3 or other communications system. The data center 20 is capable of receiving, storing and transmitting various types of data related to the homeowner's home such as text, software, music, sound, temperature data, images 74, photographs, graphics, video, alerts, messages, advertisements, promotions or other information related to a home (collectively, the 'data')"

Clearly, the above portion of Johnson, referenced by the Examiner, fails to teach or suggest that other services are available from any of the servers at the data center. Applicant's claimed system operates from and is limited to an interactive interface displayed at a third-party web site which offers services to the client on the Internet not related to the service of controlling home appliances. Applicant does not believe that the broad teaching, or lack of specific teachings of Johnson, encompasses all of the positively recited limitations as recited in applicant's claims.

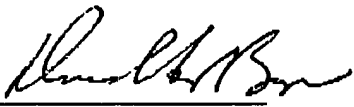
Applicant believes claims 19 and 24 are patentable as argued above. Claims 20-23 and 25-28 are patentable on their own merits, as argued above, or at least as depended from a patentable claim.

As all of the claims as amended are patentable to the Applicant over the art of record, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and that the case be passed quickly to issue.

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If there are any extensions of time required beyond any extension specifically petitioned and paid with this response, such extensions are hereby requested. If there are any fees due beyond any fees paid by check with this response, authorization is given to deduct such fees from deposit account 50-0534.

Respectfully,
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